

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 05/28/08 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-12, 15-26, 28-32 and 35-43 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. **As per claim 1 and dependent claims 2-12, 15-17 and 35-43**, the examiner found no reference in the prior art that disclosed or made obvious an apparatus wherein X-ray sources sequentially emit radiation and wherein each X-ray source directs emitted radiation toward a portion of a sensor array positioned furthest away from the X-ray source and past a portion of the sensor array positioned nearest to the X-ray source and including all limitations recited in independent claim 1.
5. **As per claim 18 and dependent claims 19-26 and 28-32**, the examiner found no reference in the prior art that disclosed or made obvious a method comprising the step of performing a plurality of X-ray scans of a mixture over a monitoring period to produce a plurality of scans using an X-ray scanner,

wherein X-ray sources sequentially emit radiation and wherein each X-ray source directs emitted radiation toward a portion of a sensor array positioned furthest away from the X-ray source and past a portion of the sensor array positioned nearest to the X-ray source and including all limitations recited in independent claim 18.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney Thomas whose telephone number is (571) 272-2496. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F (9 am - 5 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on (571) 272 2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ Courtney Thomas/

Courtney Thomas
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2882